



The Police Commission

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

February 11, 2021

Honorable Mayor London Breed
City Hall, Room 200
#1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dr. Grant Colfax, M.D.
Director of Health
San Francisco Department of Public Health
101 Grove Street
San Francisco, CA 94102

MALIA COHEN
President

CINDY ELIAS
Vice President

PETRA DeJESUS
Commissioner

JOHN HAMASAKI
Commissioner

DION-JAY BROOKTER
Commissioner

Sergeant Stacy Youngblood
Secretary

Dear Honorable Mayor Breed and Doctor Colfax:

At the meeting of the Police Commission on Wednesday, February 10, 2021, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLUTION 21-14

RESOLUTION URGING THE PROMPT DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF A DISTRIBUTION PLAN FOR COVID-19 VACCINES TO SFPD MEMBERS

WHEREAS the novel coronavirus known as COVID-19 has infected nearly 25 million Americans, caused the death of over 400,000, and disrupted society in numerous ways,

WHEREAS COVID-19 has disproportionately affected certain populations, including essential workers, many of whom must risk exposure to the virus to maintain their livelihoods and provide communities with critical functionality,

WHEREAS in the course of their duties, law enforcement officers encounter many situations where they cannot avoid exposure to individuals who are COVID-19 positive,

WHEREAS 148 SFPD officers have tested positive for the virus, two have been hospitalized, and 192 have filed COVID-19 Workers' Compensation claims, representing a human and financial cost that vaccination would mitigate,

WHEREAS the City and County of San Francisco has begun providing vaccinations for COVID-19 to at-risk groups in accordance with "Phase 1a" as defined by state guidelines,

WHEREAS the State of California has excluded police officers from the definition of “first responders,” which may have given them earlier access to the vaccine,

WHEREAS the State of California has rather defined police officers as “emergency services” workers who, if they are at risk of exposure to the virus at work, may receive the vaccine in accordance with the next phase of the rollout, known as “Phase 1b,”

WHEREAS the State of California recently reorganized its vaccine distribution guidance to prioritize age over occupation, creating further questions about when law enforcement officers will be eligible to receive the vaccine,

WHEREAS the San Francisco Department of Public Health has yet to provide a specific plan or timetable for the distribution of vaccines to sworn members of the San Francisco Police Department,

WHEREAS more than half of SFPD patrol officers report having had exposure to COVID-19-positive members of the public over the past year while performing their duties, which has put them at risk of contracting the virus and further spreading it within the communities they serve and to their families,

WHEREAS COVID-19 was the leading cause of death for American law enforcement officers in 2020, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, the San Francisco Police Commission urges the San Francisco Department of Public Health to immediately devise and communicate a detailed vaccination plan for sworn members of the San Francisco Police Department,

FURTHER RESOLVED, that limitations in vaccine availability should not preclude the development or communication of a distribution plan,

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the plan should take into account officer exposure rates, including an analysis of police districts disproportionately affected by COVID-19,

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the plan should also provide details regarding the eventual vaccination of all members of SFPD,

FURTHER RESOLVED, that DPH should work with, but not rely exclusively upon, private distributors, as not all SFPD members reside in San Francisco,

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City should prioritize the vaccination of emergency service workers regardless of whether the State moves from an occupation-based distribution system to one based solely on age,

FURTHER RESOLVED, that DPH should provide specific target dates by which all at-risk sworn members of the San Francisco Police Department will have had access to the vaccine, and by which all remaining member of the San Francisco Police Department will have had access to the vaccine.

AYES: Commissioners Cohen, Elias, DeJesus, Brookter, Hamasaki

Very truly yours,



Sergeant Stacy Youngblood
Secretary
San Francisco Police Commission

1211/rct

cc: Honorable Board of Supervisors
Chief William Scott